

Bill Backs Security for State Worker

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR

SACRAMENTO — (CNS) — Assemblyman Walter E. Powers, D-Sacramento, one of the representatives of an area containing the largest concentration of state employees in California, proposes a series of bills which, if passed, are certain to raise the morale of government employees.

Powers is concerned not only in costs of government caused by employe turn-over, but also with the human values involved

in the loss of some security in government jobs.

The state, over the years, has established itself as a "good" employer, but there is no denying salaries and benefits have lagged behind the general trend in both public and private employment. Recruitment has been a serious problem.

The one benefit recruiters could point to in seeking young men and women for state jobs was job security. But this benefit has been damaged by lay-

offs, transfers and demotions which have taken place in the past couple of years.

It also is a fact that some state agencies had grown fat by personnel expansions beyond those necessary, and those deserved cut-backs.

However, private industry, which has been pointed out by the administration as an example for state employment, long ago learned that recruitment and training is costly.

Large employers spend huge sums to lessen employe turn-over and provide incentives to retain experienced people.

As a result of this factor, one of Powers' bills would provide that employes could not be laid off except for misconduct. He contends that California is a large enough employer to make the necessity of layoffs for other causes undesirable.

Powers does not argue that from time to time, some cut-backs in certain agencies are

necessary, but he points out that the normal attrition in state service is substantial and would allow an administration to make necessary reductions without laying employes off.

He points out further that young people coming out of colleges are not going to seek careers in state employment if there is no job security, and will recognize that private employment offers a better reward, and more protection when political shifts take place.

Job security was one of the reasons the people of the state voted a constitutional amendment some 35 years ago establishing the merit system as basis for hiring their employes. They wanted continuity of employment, and also wanted to do away with the spoils system. Regardless of whether or not everyone believes this has been beneficial to the people of the state, it nevertheless is the law of the state.

Just recently, the state per-

sonnel board made a land-mark decision in this regard. The attempt of a department director to reorganize his department at the expense of two long-time civil service employes, was foiled when the board denied the director's request.

The Powers legislation seeks to avoid any repetitions of such efforts, and protect the career employes from threats of job losses by reason of political changes.

Your Right to Know
Is the Key to All Your Liberties

Comment and Opinion

A-4 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1969

Super Snooping

A copy of Mr. C. C. Moseley's letter to members of Congress which is published today in The Mailbox on this page is a sharp reminder of what the federal snoops have in store for millions of Americans next spring.

Mr. Moseley isn't exaggerating when he lists some of the information which will be sought as part of the 1970 federal census. Such a list was presented before the House of Representatives and is reprinted in the January 6, 1969, Congressional Record.

In his comments on the plans of the Census Bureau to probe such personal areas as bathroom sharing, income, property values, and rents, Congressman Jackson E. Betts (R-Ohio) told his colleagues that "the constitutional intent of the census, to enumerate the population for the purpose of apportioning of the U.S. House of Representatives, has been vastly distorted by being loaded down with so many sundry questions. I see no justification to impose a mandatory requirement on answering all such inquiries having no direct relationship with the essential function of the decennial census."

The long questionnaire to which Congressman Betts and others object covers 67 subjects with some 120 questions—all mandatory with refusal to answer any one bringing a citizen face to face with criminal penalties of a \$100 fine, 60 days in jail, or both.

Congress should be urged to act on bills submitted by Congressman Betts and others seeking to curtail the sensitive questioning of the census bureau armies which will swarm out over the nation in April, 1970.

The penalties for refusing to provide answers to personal questions against one's will should be lifted. Bathroom sharing practices certainly have little relationship to apportionment of Congressional districts. Such data can only lead to bigger files of trivia for the bloated bureaus of government to paw over.

If the snoopers want to check incomes, property values, rents, kitchen facilities, and marital histories, let them send out a questionnaire. But don't put us in jail if we tell them to get lost.

A Letter To My Son

By Tom Rische

High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce,

A major problem of today is that teenagers in all too many families are really useless — to themselves or to their families. They are in the process of "becoming" useful, but they aren't yet.

In the "good old days," farmers and tradesmen needed lots of sons to help in the fields or work in the trades. Girls helped feed and care for the working men and younger children. Teenagers got adult responsibilities early and were more or less treated as adults.

Today, we have a new class — teenagers, a group that's in limbo because society considers them too immature to do anything very important. A number of factors contribute — increasing schooling needed in a complex society, automation, different theories of child-raising.

Many Depression Era parents felt that if they gave their kids enough money to "have fun" without responsibility until the kids grew older, they would be happy. Hippies and campus demonstrators — most of whom come from fairly well-to-do families — prove this not quite true.

A major teenage complaint is that adults urge them to "grow up and act mature" in one breath, while, in the next, telling them, "you're too young to think about that." Asked what useful job he did, one boy replied, "I eat plenty, buy records, and use lots of gas. That helps the economy."

Teenagers whose parents gave them responsibilities generally are responsible. Those who never served any useful function — except consuming — tend to be irresponsible. Money is no substitute for good training — even babysitting, cutting the lawn, or delivering papers.

Teenagers learn to be useful by doing useful things, and although they gripe about working, most kids are proud of their accomplishments.

Yours for usefulness,
YOUR DAD

While You're Assessing the Damage . . .



From the Mailbox

New Census to Question Bathroom Sharing Plans

To the Editor:

(I direct your attention to the attached letter which I have sent to all Congressmen.)

One can be harassed, threatened, fined, and imprisoned for refusing to answer any of the questions on the 1970 census form which requires the following categories of information be submitted by every person receiving the long form:

1. Income, dollar by dollar, from all sources including public assistance, alimony, unemployment and disability insurance, pensions, and investments;
2. The value of property or amount of rent paid;
3. Educational, marital, employment, and military history;
4. With whom bathroom and kitchen facilities are shared;
5. A long list of household items including dishwasher, television, radios, automobiles, and second home; and
6. Where each person and his parents were born.

The constitutional intent of the census was originally to enumerate the population for apportionment of the House of Representatives. This goes entirely too far! This is a census and it is none of the government's business who uses my bathroom or kitchen or what my possessions are!

Census reform is needed now, and I urge that you give H.R. 20 your vigorous support.

C. C. MOSELEY
President
Grand Central
Industrial Center

Memorial Fund

To the Editor:

We have 13 homes on our street. Unlucky you say? Well, it was for Officer Gary Ripstein. He lived on our street and for those people who don't know who he was, he is the police officer who was shot and lost his life in the line of duty on Dec. 22, 1968.

I am shocked to learn Torrance with a population of 133,000 can only raise almost 1,000

dollars and some of those donations came from San Jose, San Mateo, and other places for a memorial fund for Gary Ripstein's widow with those small children. How much can she do with that?

We read where the students of West Torrance High School surprised the City Council by pledging 500 dollars toward the proposed civic center fountain; Pacific Smelting pledges \$25,000 for the Torrance Memorial hospital building fund. Don't you think a little more publicity on your part to remind the people of Torrance would help to bring in more to the Gary Ripstein Memorial fund at Marina Federal Savings, Hawthorne Boulevard in Torrance?

The bills are going on for this widow. I'm hoping you will help.

M. J.
Torrance

Aid Praised

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Torrance Seventh-day Adventist Church I would like to thank Torrance

residents for their generous support of our church's 65th annual World Service Appeal. Torrance residents contributed over \$2,000 to the campaign. All contributions will go to a central fund with allotments made to humanitarian projects according to need.

Seventh-day Adventists, as you might know, are among the "givingest" Christians in the world. Last year the 39,614 Adventists in the United States and Canada gave more than \$131.5 million to their church to carry on its work around the world. But with a world full of tragedy — rioting here at home, instability in the Middle East, war in southeastern Asia — there is still room for contributions from our friends.

It is gratifying to realize that Torrance residents are aware of the suffering and ignorance prevalent in many parts of the world and have given their financial support to aid these unfortunate persons of all races, colors, and creeds.

DAVID H. PILLOR
Pastor,
Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Other Opinions

When we reach the point where we realize that we must balance the budget and live within our income, we will halt a growing federal debt, cut taxes, and cut out waste and inefficiency in government. Only when this happens can the threat of continued inflation ease. The question is: When, if ever, will we do this? *Somerset (Pa.) American.*

The people are the great losers when the press is not free. Censorship is frustrating to journalists. But it forges chains of oppression for the people. Newspapers are only suppressed by tyranny. People are enslaved by it. Newspaper will continue to fight when necessary — as they have fought before — to preserve freedom of the press. But freedom of the press is more than the life-blood of free newspapers — it is the life blood of free America. — *Laurel (Del.) State Register.*

HERB CAEN SAYS:

A Few 'Why-Don't-Theys' And Some 'Do-Withouts'

More things and types we can do without:

People who enter your home or office for the first time and head straight for the bookshelves with the brilliant observation: "All I have to do is look at the books you read and I'll know all about you." (Oh, obscenity.)

Why don't they: Include your blood type in your driver's license? (Quick, what's yours?) . . . Put ZIP code numbers in the phone book? . . . Print symphony and opera programs in type large enough to be read by half-light . . . Start a Black Studies program at the public libraries but restrict it to the people who really need it — the whites? . . . Run a survey to find out if Negroes really do prefer to be called blacks? . . . Have a nonodially hour of music — everything from the Muni Band to the Jefferson Airplane — in Union Square? . . . Put antiseptic footbaths on downtown street-corners for barefoot hippies? . . .

Men who actually wear those phony breast pocket handkerchiefs supplied as a gimmick by dry cleaners.

The phrase "Continental Breakfast" applied to a stale snail and a cup of instant coffee (a real continental breakfast — brioche, croissant, confiture, sweet butter, cafe filtre — is something else).

People who can't change the subject without saying "Not to change the subject, but . . ."

Mail solicitations for a magazine you have subscribed for seven years.

"The name of the game

is—." Well, whatever it is, it usually isn't.

Politicians and bureaucrats who use "implement" as a verb (they should be fined \$100 every time they use it, with immediate implementation). Intellectuals on TV who pro-

Report from Our Man
in San Francisco

nounce "forte" as though it were "fort-ay."

Actresses who say in interviews: "I'm dying to play a prostitute. I guess it's because I'm really such a nice girl." (Bleah.)

Loud applause in the middle of a drum solo in a jazz joint. Drum solos.

Drivers who refuse to turn on their headlights on dark and rainy days (save batteries, not lives).

"No, but I read the reviews."

People who drop out of a discussion with "Well, I really have no interest in politics" and then join in to agree with whoever is making the most arch-reactionary statements.

Publishers of the cruddiest pornography who try to get off the hook by describing it in their ads as "a rollicking spoof." Pfoof.

Unsolicited credit cards that arrive with a warning to "Destroy previous card," which you didn't receive but can imagine floating around for evermore, like an undelivered threat.

The "May be Hazardous to Your Health" warning on ciga-

rette packages is milder than the tobacco is supposed to be.

Are they afraid to come right out and say c---r? . . . The world is divided into two kinds of women: those who can't stand the sight of their lovers in jockey shorts, and those who don't care all that much.

The one gaffe that turns off all women: loveboy wearing his wristwatch to bed — especially if it's an alarm job set to buzz in 10 minutes . . . I love it, I love it: Burlingame beauty, about to marry a prominent New Yorker, told her parents proudly: "And another wonderful thing about him — he doesn't DRINK." Father, suspiciously: "What is he, an alcoholic?" . . . Sign on a Bush St. bar: "Closed due to illness. I'm sick of the place" . . .

Overseas flash: The Robert Tais of Honolulu are celebrating. Their No. 6 daughter, La La, has just been named Narcissus Queen, much to the delight of her sisters — Do Do, Re Re, Mi Mi, Fa Fa, So So, Si Si and Octavia — and her brothers, Roy Uranium and Rex Satellite. Every name guaranteed authentic.

Amy Siegel was aboard a Fillmore bus heading toward the Marina one morning last week when the driver suddenly stopped, arose, faced the passengers and announced stonily: "Alright, all you people smoking pot — over by the windows!" Five passengers dutifully slid over and opened their windows. People who don't observe the "No Smoking" signs are just awful.

THE MONEY TREE

Needed: Something Akin To 'The Pill' for Cars

By MILTON MOSKOWITZ

If we ever choke on anything in this country, it will be the automobile. There are now more than 80 million cars on the road in the United States, and this is getting close to one for every two persons.

Our cars are increasing much more rapidly than our population. Since 1955 our population has increased by 20 per cent. But the number of cars has increased by 50 per cent.

We have pills now to curb births. We also have Ralph Nader now to alert us to safety defects in automobiles. But the pill is for people — and Mr. Nader seems to be no deterrent whatsoever to car sales.

The number of cars we bought last year surprised even Detroit. Normally optimistic (they hate "poor mouth" talk), the auto makers underestimated by several hundred thousand units the American demand for their four-wheeled monsters.

By the time the year was over, Americans had bought 9.6 million new cars. That was a record, eclipsing the 9.3 million we bought back in 1965. Worked out on those mythical averages, it meant that nearly one out of every six households went out and bought a new car.

And what did we buy? Well, we bought more than one million Chevrolets, nearly one million Fords, more than half a million Volkswagens, 450,000 Pontiacs, 450,000 Fairlanes, 400,000 Chevilles, 370,000 Plymouths (the Fury model), 320,000 Mustangs, 200,000 Cadil-

lacs, 70,000 Toyotas and 30,000 Corvettes.

It was a big year for the foreign makes. They sold about one million cars here for the first time ever.

In the jockeying for market position, the spoils went to the biggest one of them all, General Motors Corp. GM scooped up 52 per cent of U.S. car sales in 1968. More significant was its performance in the last three months of the year, when the 1969 models were on sale. GM took 53 per cent of those sales and in early January it upped this to 54 per cent.

GM's Chevrolet Division weighed in with sales of two million vehicles but the big contributors to GM's eight per cent sales gain last year were the Pontiac, Oldsmobile, and Buick Divisions. In the Pontiac lineup, Tempest sales shot from 295,000 to 334,000. In the Oldsmobile ranks, the F-85 zoomed from 257,000 to 301,000. And the Buick Special zipped from 325,000 to 359,000.

The message there is easy to read: Compact, sporty cars are finding ready buyers.

GM, the world's largest manufacturing company, even did well in the import market. It sold 85,000 of its German-made Opels through Buick dealers in 1968. Next to the Volkswagen, the Opel was the top-selling import. It comes now with automatic transmission, as does the VW.

Following GM in the auto market is Ford Motor Co., which accounts for one out of every four car sales. Then comes Chrysler Corp., at 18 per cent of the market. Bring-

ing up the rear is American Motors Corp., with 3 per cent of the business.

The verdict is still out on American Motors, the beleaguered manufacturer of the Rambler, Rebel, Ambassador, Javelin, and AMX. The company's share of the market has been going downhill since 1960, when it enjoyed more than 7 per cent of the business.

In the buoyant car market of 1968, American Motors did all right, increasing its sales 11 per cent to 269,000 units. This year it's aiming for sales of 300,000, and it figures that those 80 million cars on the road give it an edge because, as Roy S. Chapin Jr., chairman of AMC, puts it, "The practicalities of getting from one place to another in today's traffic favor trimness over bigness in car design."

But trimness is a direction both Ford and GM are also following. Ford will bring out a new minicar, the Maverick, this spring, and GM will have one next year, a four-cylinder job.

Could it be that the only way we can get more cars on the road is to reduce their size?

Press-Herald

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Published Each
Wednesday and Friday

2228 W. Sepulveda Blvd.
Torrance, Calif. 90510